

**COPY**

Attorney Docket No. 10800-3U2  
Express Mail Label No.: EV179011433US

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**  
(Original Application)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

**DISKECTOMY INSTRUMENT AND METHOD**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**FOREIGN PRIORITY APPLICATION(S)**

Priority Claimed  
[ ] Yes [X] No

---

(Number) (Country) (Day/month/year filed)

[ ] Yes [ ] No

---

(Number) (Country) (Day/month/year filed)

**COPY**

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §119(e) of any United States provisional patent application(s) listed below and have also identified below any United States provisional patent application(s) having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

**PROVISIONAL PRIORITY PATENT APPLICATION(S)**

		<b>Priority Claimed</b>
60/349,742 (Application No.)	January 17, 2002 (Filing Date)	[X] Yes [ ] No
60/369,701 (Application No.)	April 2, 2002 (Filing Date)	[X] Yes [ ] No

And I hereby appoint the registered attorneys and agents associated with **AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP, Customer No. 000570**, as my attorneys or agents with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

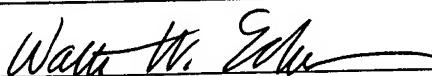
Address all correspondence to **Customer No. 000570**, namely, **AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP**, One Commerce Square, 2005 Market Street, Suite 2200, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-7013. Please direct all communications and telephone calls to **Kevin R. Hamel** at 215-965-1259.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Full name of first  
sole inventor

Walter W. Eckman

Inventor's Signature



Date

Jan 14, 2003

Residence

Tupelo, Mississippi

Citizenship

United States of America

Post Office Address

1907 Pecan Grove, Tupelo, MS 38801